

Application No.: 10/668,883

Docket No.: 61843(51035)

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claim 1 (cancelled)

Claim 2 (cancelled)

Claim 3 (cancelled)

Claim 4 (cancelled)

Claim 5 (cancelled)

Claim 6 (original): A method for increasing food and energy uptake from a livestock feed by livestock comprising:

administering to the livestock a feed having an effective amount of hop acid capable of decreasing the production of unoxidized carbon sources in a digestive system fluid of the livestock.

Claim 7 (currently amended): The method of claim 6 wherein the hop acids ~~are~~ is selected from at least one of the group consisting of alpha acids, beta acids, isoalpha acids, rho-isoalpha acids, tetrahydroisoalpha acids and hexahydroisoalpha acids.

Claim 8 (currently amended): The method of claim 7 wherein the alpha acids are selected from at least one of the group consisting of humulone, cohumulone, and adhumulone.

Claim 9 (original): The method of claim 7 wherein the beta acids are selected from at least one of the group consisting of lupulone, colupulone, and adlupulone.

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Claim 10 (original): The method of claim 6 wherein the amount of hop acid is 2 ppm of digestive system fluid.

Claim 11 (original): The method of claim 6 wherein the livestock is selected from the group consisting of cattle, horses, pigs, and zoo animals.

Claim 12 (currently amended): The method of claim 6 ~~further comprising administering wherein~~ the hop acid ~~is~~ capable of increasing the level of propionate in the digestive system fluid.

Claim 13 (cancelled)

Claim 14 (cancelled)

Claim 15 (cancelled)

Claim 16 (cancelled)

Claim 17 (new): The method of claim 7, wherein the hop acids are selected from at least one of the group consisting of alpha acids and beta acids.

Claim 18 (new): The method of claim 6, wherein the livestock is a ruminant.

Claim 19 (new): The method of claim 6, wherein the livestock is a cow.

Claim 20 (new): The method of claim 6, wherein the livestock is a poultry or fowl.

Claim 21 (new): The method of claim 6, wherein the livestock is a chicken, duck, pheasant or turkey.

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Claim 22 (new): The method of claim 6, wherein the livestock is a pig.

Claim 23 (new): The method of claim 6, wherein the livestock is a horse.